

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PEKING 00770 290924Z

16

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-01 SS-07 NSC-06 SSO-00

NSCE-00 /032 W

----- 061665

P 290900Z APR 76

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5555

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 770

E.O.11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, CH, UR, US, OREP (PRICE, MELVIN)

SUBJECT: CODEL PRICE VISIT PROVOKES POLICY COMMENT BY SOVIET OFFICIAL

1. IN CONNECTION WITH THE VISIT OF CODEL PRICE, SOVIET EMBASSY POLITICAL COUNSELOR FEDETOV COMMENTED TO USLO POLCOUNS APRIL 28 THAT: (1) CHINA WOULD NOT BE INTERESTED IN "WARNING EQUIPMENT" FROM THE U.S., BECAUSE CHINA KNOWS PERFECTLY WELL THE USSR HAS NO INTENTION OF ATTACKING IT; AND (2) WERE THE US TO PROVIDE THE CHINESE WHAT THEY REALLY WANT, E.G. MISSILE GUIDANCE EQUIPMENT, THIS ACTION WOULD DESTROY US-SOVIET DETENTE. THE TOPICS AND REMARKS CAME OUT OF THE BLUE, BUT FEDOTOV'S DELIVERY SUGGESTED THEY WERE ANYTHING BUT IMPROMPTU.

2. ABOVE EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE DURING THE THIRD AND MOST STRUCTURED OF THREE SOVIET EMBASSY ATTEMPTS IN TWO DAYS (APRIL 27 AND 28) TO FIND OUT FROM USLO THE "REAL" PURPOSE, CONTENT AND RESULTS OF THE CODEL PRICE VISIT. FEDOTOV, THE MOST SENIOR SOVIET OFFICIAL INVOLVED, WAS THE ONLY ONE TO INCLUDE COMMENT IN ADDITION TO PROBING.

3. REALIZING THAT NOTHING WE SAID WOULD ALLAY THE SOVIETS' SUSPICIONS, AND SEEING NO PROFIT IN INTENSIFYING THESE, WE HAVE GIVEN SOVIETS MATTER-OF-FACT DESCRIPTION OF "PRIVATE" FORMAT IN WHICH CODEL VISITS TO CHINA TAKE PLACE; REVIEW OF
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PEKING 00770 290924Z

CODEL PRICE ITINERARY (INCLUDING ITS VISIT TO 196TH INFANTRY

DIVISION); AND CHARACTERIZATION OF CHINESE STATEMENTS IN
FORMAL MEETINGS WITH THE CODEL AS CORRESPONDING CLOSELY TO
PRC'S STANDARD PUBLIC LINE.

4. FEDOTOV WAS ARMED WITH WHAT VOA HAD BROADCAST ABOUT
THE CODEL BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER THE VISIT; HE UNDER-
STANDABLY DID NOT SEEM PERSUADED BY EXPLANATION OF VOA'S
INDEPENDENCE AND OF ITS NEWS PROGRAMMING CRITERIA.
THAYER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, CODELS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PEKING00770
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760162-0923
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976047/aaaaafqw.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAY 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <31 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL PRICE VISIT PROVOKES POLICY COMMENT BY SOVIET OFFICIAL
TAGS: PFOR, OREP, CH, UR, US, (PRICE, MELVIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006